

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 YAOUND 01591 01 OF 02 230801Z

11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19 SAM-01 NIC-01 DRC-01

AID-20 EB-11 /185 W

----- 008609

R 221600Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3268

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LORENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 YAOUNDE 1591/1

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAU

SUBJECT: 23RD MEETING OF AFRICAN LIBERATION COMMITTEE

REF: A) YAOUNDE 1492 NOTAL; B) YAOUNDE 1510 NOTAL

1. SUMMARY. 23RD SESSION OF ALC WAS HELD IN YAOUNDE
MAY 13-19 IN AURA OF OPTIMISM CREATED BY PORTUGUESE COUP,
"YAOUNDE DECLARATION" ON PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES COMBINED
CARROT WITH STICK. ALTHOUGH PAIGC TALKS WITH PORTUGUESE TO
SOME EXTENT SUPERSEDED TALK AT ALC SESSION, PAIGC AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 YAOUND 01591 01 OF 02 230801Z

ALC MOVES WERE ESSENTIALLY IN HARMONY. ONE NOTABLE RESULT OF

23RD SESSION IS APPARENT RETURN TO GRACE OF LONG-DORMANT
LUSAKA MAINFESTO, WHICH ADVOCATED LIBERATION THROUGH

PEACEFUL MEANS IF POSSIBLE. ASIDE FROM FOCUS ON
NEW SITUATION FOR PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES, 23RD SESSION
WAS USUAL WORKADAY AFFAIR DEALING WITH CONTINUING
PROBLEMS OF UNIFYING COMPETING LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND
DRUMMING UP FINANCIAL SUPPORT, ALL WITH THE AIM OF IN-
CREASING INTENSITY AND EFFICACY OF LIBERATION EFFORTS.

2. REFTEL A REPORTED MAY 13 OPENING DAY PUBLIC SESSION
AND INITIAL CLOSED ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION OF WEEK-LONG 23RD
MEETING OF OAU'S COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICAN
LIBERATION GKOR AFRICAN LIBERATION COMMITTEE-ALC). REFTEL
B REPORTED DECLARATION ON PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES ISSUED

AT CONCLUSION OF SECOND DAY'S DISCUSSIONS. RELATED AGENDA
ITEMS INCLUDED: SITUATION IN PORTUGAL, SITUATION IN
PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES IN WAKE OF COUP, UDI POSSIBILITIES,
SOUTH AFRICAN AND RHODESIAN POSSIBLE EFFORTS TO BRAKE DECOLONIAL-
IZATION IN PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES.

3. REST OF 23RD SESSION, WHICH ENDED 5:30 AM MAY 19 AFTER
ALL-NIGHT MEETING, RESEMBLED MORE ISUAL ALC CONFAB. AGENDA
INCLUDED: REPORT BY ALC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (TANZANIAN
LT. COL. HASHIM MBITA) ON RECENT GOOD WILL MISSION TO FOUR
COMMUNIST COUNTRIES (CHINA, NORTH KOREA, USSR, RUMANIA)
WHICH ALLEGEDLY EVOKED PROMISES OF INCREASED SUPPORT;
EXAMINATION OF REPORT BY ALC'S THREE PERMANENT COMMISSIONS;
REPORTS BY LIBERATION MOVEMENT REPS OUTLINING ACTIVITIES

4. DESPITE HEAVY PROGRAM AND FINAL ALL-NIGHT
EFFORT, COMMITTEE WAS UNABLE COMPLETE WORK TO POINT
OF ISSUING CONCLUDING PUBLIC STATEMENT AND ADOPTING FINAL
REPORT. THESE NOW EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED JUST PRIOR TO
OR EVEN CONCURRENT WITH JUNE OAU MINISTERIAL MEETING
IN MOGADISCIO. ACCORDING SOURCE ON NIGERIAN DEL, THIS
DELAYED TIMING DOES NOT RPT NOT REFLECT ANY BASIC
DISPUTES BUT MERELY PRACTICAL PROBLEMS PRESENTED BY
WORKING IN THREE LANGUAGES AND TIME-CONSUMING QUESTIONING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 YAOUND 01591 01 OF 02 230801Z

OF INDIVIDUAL LIBERATION GROUPS. ALSO SESSION FORCED TO
END BECAUSE OF NEED TO CLEAR OUT DELEGATIONS PRIOR
BEGINNING OF CAMEROON NATIONAL DAY FESTIVITIES MAY 19-20
THIS PRECLUDED USUAL PRESS CONFERENCES, ETC.

5. GURC FONMIN AND NEW ALC CHAIRMAN VINCENT EFON STATED IN
CLOSING SPEECH THAT ALC HAD DRAWN UP NEW ACTION PLAN UP-
DATING STRATEGY PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED AT 21ST ALC

SESSION AT ACCRA. NEW PLAN PROPOSED "COHERENT, CONCRETE, AND REALISTIC" MEASURES TO BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO ARMED STRUGGLE AND ACCELERATE TOTAL LIBERATION. (NO FURTHER DETAILS GIVEN). EFON REFERRED TO MAY 14 DECLARATION REFTEL B, WHICH HE CONSCIOUSLY BAPTISED "YAOUNDE DECLARATION", AS REPRESENTING AFRICA'S OUTSTRETCHED HAND TO PORTUGUESE PEOPLE AND LEADERS GTIN THE LOGIC OF THE LUSAKA MANIFESTO." HE STRESSED (WHICH TEXT OF DECLARATION ITSELF DID NOT) THAT IN THIS DECLARATION ALC WAS APPEALING TO PORTUGUESE PEOPLE, " IN CONCERT WITH PORTUGAL'S ALLIES AND OTHER PEACE-LOVING PEOPLES" TO BRING PRESSURE ON NEW GOP TO RSPOND TO AFRICA'S APPEAL.

6. EFON'S CLOSING SPEECH ALSO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT POSITIVE RESPONSE BY NEW GOP TO APPEAL EXPRESSED IN LUSAKA MANIFESTIO AND YAOUNDE DECLARATION, IE, GOP FONMIN ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER DAKAR TALKS OF MAY 25 CEASEFIRE (SIC) AND LONDON NEGOTIATIONS NOR PERMANENT SOLUTION. STATED ALSO THAT "IT SEEMS THAT SIMILAR NEGOTIATIONS ARE EQUALLY ABOUT TO BEGIN WITH ANGOTA AND MOZAMBIQUE."

7. ONE THEME OF 23RD SESSION REFLECTED IN LOCAL MEDIA COVERAGE WAS EFFORT UNITE VARIOUS LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OPERATING WITHIN SAME TERRITORY. THIS EFFORT ESPECIALLY MARKED RE MPLA AND FNLA (ANGOLA), AND PAC AND ANC (SOUTH AFRICA). COMMITTEE HEARD REP OF UNITA (ANGOLA), FROLIZI (RHODESIA), AND UMSA (UNITED MOVEMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA), BUT REPORTEDLY TOOK NO DECISION ON THEIR REQUESTS FOR RECOGNITION. ACCORDING PRESS REPORT, "RELIABLE SOURCES" HINTED COMMITTEE WAS FAVORABLY INCLINED TO UNITA AND UMSA, BUT NOT TO FROLIZI TO WHOSE RECOGNITION ZAPU AND ZANU, ADAMANTLY OPPOSED. COMMITTEE ALSO

HEARD REP OF MPAIC (CANARY ISLANDS), "TOOK NOTE" OF HIS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 YAOUND 01591 01 OF 02 230801Z

STATEMENT AND ASKED AD HOC COMMITTEE TO STUDY SITUATION

AND SUBMIT DETAILED REPORT TO 24TH ALC SESSION.

8. FOLLOWING MISCELLANEOUS INFO GLEANED FROM VARIOUS DELS:
(A) COMMITTEE LEARNED DETAILS ABOUT PAIGC-GOP DAKAR

MOORE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 YAOUND 01591 02 OF 02 230830Z

11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19 SAM-01 NIC-01 AID-20 EB-11

DRC-01 /185 W

----- 009132

R 221635Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3269

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LORENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L FINAL SECTION 2 OF 2 YAOUNDE 1591/2

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAU

SUBJECT: 23RD MEETING OF AFRICAN LIBERATION COMMITTEE

REF: A) YAOUNDE 1492 NOTAL; B) YAOUNDE 1510 NOTAL

TALKS ONLY FROM RADIO NEWS BROADCASTS. GUINEA-BISSAU DELEGATE HAD BEEN AWARE ONLY THAT CONTACTS WERE ENVISAGED. CONCERN FELT THAT PAIGC MAY NEGOTIATE ONLY FOR PORTUGUESE GUINEA AND NOT EQUALLY FOR CAPE VERDE ISLANDS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 YAOUND 01591 02 OF 02 230830Z

(B) HAVING ALREADY SENT MISSION TO BLOC COUNTRIES,

COMMITTEE DECIDED SEND MISSION TO OTHER COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THOSE FRIENDLY TO PORTUGAL. WILL TRY EXERT PRESSURE THRU NATO MEMBERS ON PORTUGAL. DELS REPORTEDLY RECOGNIZED NATO COUNTRIES NOT SUPPLYING ARMS TO PORTUGAL FOR USE IN AFRICA, BUT THOSE ARMS GETTING TO AFRICA.

(C) COMMITTEE DETERMINED TO PRESS FULL STEAM AHEAD RE PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES WITHOUT CONCERN FOR SPINOLA'S INTERNAL PROBLEMS IN PORTUGAL. "UP TO HIM TO HANDLE HOME FRONT."

(D) UNITA ESPECIALLY WELL REGARDED FOR ITS SERIOUS MILITARY EFFORTS IN ANGOLA AND COMMITTEE REPORTEDLY DECIDED OFFICIALLY SUPPORT UNITA AS LIBERATION MOVEMENT ON PRIORITY BASIS ALONG WITH MPLA. FNLA SAID TO HAVE LOST FAVOR AMONG ALC MEMBERS.

(E) AFFARS AND ISSAS SITUATION CONSIDERED UNSATISFACTORY SINCE NO ONE DOING ANYTHING THERE. ALC DISINCLINED GIVE FURTHER SUPPORT UNLESS OPPOSITIONISTS CAN SHOW ACTIVITIES. SOMALI-BASED MOVEMENT GIVEN FUNDS ORGANIZE DEMONSTRATIONS DURING LAST LOCAL ELECTIONS, BUT COULDN'T PRODUCE.

(F) COMMITTEE AGREED TO EXERT GREATER EFFORTS AT UN TO PUSH NAMIBIA CASE.

(G) COMMITTEE SKEPTICAL RE CLAIMED CANARY ISLANDS MOVEMENT. (NOTE: SPANISH AMBASSADOR HAS COMMENTED THAT CANARY ISLANDS HAS NO INDIGENOUS POPULATION, PURPORTED REP IS SINGLE INDIVIDUAL HARBORED IN ALGIERS AND TROTTED OUT TO "REPRESENT" CANARY ISLANDS AT AFRICAN CONCLAVES).

(H) GENERAL LACK OF CONFIDENCE SHOWN IN LEADER OF RHODESIA'S ANC, BISHOP MUZOREWA, WHOM DELEGATES REGARDED AS UNRELIABLE.

(I) PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD BUT REJECTED RPT REJECTED FOR MILITARY FORCES FROM INDEPENDENT AFRICAN NATIONS TO BE INTRODUCED UNDER GUISE OF "VOLUNTEERS" TO AID AFRICAN LIBERATION FIGHTERS.

(J) COMMITTEE CONCERNED BY FINANCIAL PROBLEM WIDESPREAD ARREARAGE BY OAU MEMBERS IN PAYING BUDGET ASSESSMENTS.

9. SIDELIGHTS:

(A) PRESIDENT AHIDJO ANNOUNCED GURC VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION, BEYOND NORMAL ASSESSMENT, OF US \$50,000 TO OAU LIBERATION FUND AND \$25,000 TO SPECIAL FUND FOR GUINEA-BISSAU.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 YAOUND 01591 02 OF 02 230830Z

TION FUND AND \$25,000 TO SPECIAL FUND FOR GUINEA-BISSAU.

(B) DURING CEREMONY CHRISTENING NEW "AVENUE OF AFRICAN LIBERATION" IN YAOUNDE, UGANDA FONMIN PRINCESS ELIZABETH BAGAYA, SPEAKING FOR ALC VISITORS, LAUDED GURC FOR ITS ACTS OF "DEFIANCE" IN LEAVING OCAM AND AIR AFRIQUE. SHE STRESSED THAT THESE MOVES WERE IN DEFIANCE OF A GREAT POWER. (COMMENT: THIS KIND OF PRAISE COULD HARDLY BE PLEASING EITHER TO GURC, WHICH CAREFULLY MANAGES SUCH DEPARTURES REASON-

ABLY GRACEFULLY, NOR TO NUMEROUS REMAINING AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS IN OCAM AND AIR AFRIQUE. UGANDA STRIKES AGAIN).

(C) IN STRIDENT INTERVIEW PUBLISHED BY CAMEROON NEWS AGENCY, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN NTANTALA OF REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL OF PAN-AFRICAN CONGRESS CITED BRITISH INVESTMENTS AS REPRESENTING 60 PERCENT OF INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA, AND US SHARE AS HAVING GROWN FROM 16 TO 26 PERCENT IN PAST TEN YEARS. (COMMENT: INTERVIEW WAS UNFORTUNATELY, PROBABLY INTENTIONALLY UNCLEAR IN IMPLYING THAT FIGURES CITED REFERRED TO PERCENTAGE SHARES OF TOTAL AND NOT JUST FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA. IN ANY CASE, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE INFO FROM DEPARTMENT ON ACCURACY OF 26 PERCENT FIGURE FOR US WHICH MUCH ABOVE FIGURE OF 16 PERCENT WHICH US SPOKESMAN HAVE CITED IN PAST).

10. EMBASSY POUCHING AVAILABLE TEXTS OF OPENING SESSION SPEECHES, MAY 14 DECLARATION, CLOSING SPEECH, LISTS OF DELEGATES TO AF/RA.

11. COMMENT: THE MAIN FEATURE, AND ONLY SPECIAL SPARK TO AN OTHERWISE ROUTINE ALC SESSION STEMMED FROM AN ACCIDENT OF TIMING, I.E., ITS OCCURRENCE SOON AFTER THE COUP IN PORTUGAL AND DURING A PERIOD OF MOVEMENT IN PORTUGAL'S AFRICAN POLICY. THESE FORTUITOUS CIRCUMSTANCES PRODUCED A CERTAIN HEADY ATMOSPHERE AND PERHAPS SENSE OF IMPORTANCE, ESPECIALLY DURING THE FIRST TWO DAYS WHEN THE FOCUS WAS ON PORTUGAL. AT THE SAME TIME, THE ALC SESSION WAS INCIDENTAL TO THE MAIN SHOW. THIS MUST HAVE BEEN CLEAR TO EVEN THE MOST ENTHUSIASTIC OF DELEGATES ONCE THE DAKAR MEETING BETWEEN PAIGC AND GOP REPRESENTATIVES TOOK PLACE INDEPENDENT OF THE DISCUSSIONS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 YAOUNDE 01591 02 OF 02 230830Z

AND PRONOUNCEMENTS BEING MADE AT THE 23RD ALC SESSION IN YAOUNDE. SO TOO WITH PROGRESS TOWARD DIALOGUE FOR MOZAMBIQUE. FOREIGN MINISTER EFON'S CAREFULLY WORDED CLOSING STATEMENT WAS A SKILLFUL EFFORT: (A) TO IMPLY SUBSTANTIAL CREDIT FOR THE COMMITTEE'S JUST-CONCLUDING MEETING; (B) TO KEEP THE ALC AND THE KEY LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES, ESPECIALLY THE PAIGC, AT LEAST PUBLICLY ON THE SAME TRACK; AND (C) TO PLAY UP THE MODERATE (LUSAKA MANIFESTO) SIDE OF THE YAOUNDE DECLARATION RATHER THAN THE TOUGHER (MOGADISCIO DECLARATION) TUNE.
MOORE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, INDEPENDENCE, RECOGNITION, MEETING AGENDA, MEETINGS, DEPENDENCIES, SPEECHES, POLITICAL SITUATION, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974YAOUND01591
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740128-1024
From: YAOUNDE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740525/aaaaavsf.tel
Line Count: 327
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) YAOUNDE 1492 NOTAL; B) YAOUNDE 15, 10 NOTAL
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 23RD MEETING OF AFRICAN LIBERATION COMMITTEE
TAGS: PFOR, CM, PO, XH, OAU, ALC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005